

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A flexible hose for use as a refrigerant passageway in a vehicular refrigerating cycle, comprising:

a cylindrical inner hose formed from resin having flexibility; [[and]]

a cylindrical outer hose formed from resin having flexibility and covering the inner hose with a space in a given distance[[;]],

wherein the inner and outer hose are configured to allow high pressure refrigerant of the cycle to flow through an interior of the inner hose and low pressure refrigerant of the cycle to flow through a space between the inner hose and the outer hose ~~without increasing the pressure loss of each refrigerant.~~,

an inner sleeve-like conduit coupling retained fixedly by a distal end of the inner hose; and

an outer sleeve-like conduit coupling retained fixedly by a distal end of the outer hose,

wherein the inner conduit coupling and the outer conduit coupling are configured so that pressing an outer circumferential periphery of the outer conduit coupling after inserting the inner conduit coupling into the outer conduit coupling allows the inner conduit coupling to be fixedly retained with the outer conduit coupling.

2. (Original) The flexible hose according to claim 1, wherein the outer hose is formed from raw material having a higher flexibility than that of raw material forming the inner hose.

3. (Currently Amended) The flexible hose according to claim 1, ~~wherein further comprising a coupling assembly which includes: the~~ [[an]] inner sleeve-like conduit coupling comprises: including

an inside connecting portion adapted to be coupled to an associated inside connecting portion[,.];

a plurality of retainer segments extending in a radial direction thereof[,.]; and

an inside hose fixing portion fixedly retained by a distal end of inner hose[[],]; and

the [[an]] outer sleeve-like conduit coupling comprises: including

an outside connecting portion adapted to be coupled to an associated outside connecting portion[[],];

a retainer fixing portion fixedly retaining retaining fixedly the retainer segments of the inner conduit coupling[[],]; and

an outside hose fixing portion fixedly retaining fixedly by a distal end of the outer hose,

~~the outer conduit coupling having an inner diameter slightly larger than an outer diameter of the retainer segments of the inner conduit coupling;~~

wherein the retainer fixing portion and the retainer segments are configured so that pressing caulking an outer circumferential periphery of the retainer fixing portion after inserting the inner conduit coupling, ~~which is fixedly retained with the distal end of the inner hose, into an interior of the outer conduit coupling, which is fixedly retained with the distal end of the outer hose,~~ allows the retainer segments to be fixedly retained with the retainer fixing portion.

4. (Currently Amended) The flexible hose according to claim 3, wherein the retainer fixing portion is disposed in the outside hose fixing portion and pressing caulking an outer circumferential periphery of the outside hose fixing portion allows the retainer segments to be fixedly retained with the retainer fixing portion.

5. (Previously Presented) The flexible hose according to claim 1, wherein at least one of the outer hose and the inner hose takes the form of a doubled-layer structure that includes a base layer, and a reinforcing layer formed by winding a reinforcing yarn onto an outer circumferential periphery of the base layer.

6. (Currently Amended) The flexible hose according to claim 5, wherein further comprising a coupling assembly which includes: the [[an]] inner sleeve-like conduit coupling comprises: including

an inside connecting portion adapted to be coupled to an associated inside connecting portion[[],] :

a plurality of retainer segments extending in a radial direction thereof[[],]; and
an inside hose fixing portion fixedly retained fixedly by a distal end of the
inner hose[[]], and

the [[an]] outer sleeve-like conduit coupling comprises: including

an outside connecting portion adapted to be coupled to an associated outside
connecting portion[[],] :

a retainer fixing portion fixedly retained retaining fixedly the retainer segments
of the inner conduit coupling[[],] ; and

an outside hose fixing portion fixedly retained fixedly by a distal end of the
outer hose,

~~the outer conduit coupling having an inner diameter slightly larger than an
outer diameter of the retainer segments of the inner conduit coupling;~~

wherein the retainer fixing portion and the retainer segments are configured so
that pressing caulking an outer circumferential periphery of the retainer fixing portion after
inserting the inner conduit coupling, ~~which is fixedly retained with the distal end of the inner
hose, into an interior of the outer conduit coupling, which is fixedly retained with the distal
end of the outer hose,~~ allows the retainer segments to be fixedly retained with the retainer
fixing portion.

7. (Previously Presented) The flexible hose according to claim 1, wherein at
least one of the outer hose and the inner hose takes the form of a three-layer structure that
includes a base layer, a reinforcing layer formed by winding a reinforcing yarn onto an outer
circumferential periphery of the base layer, and a protecting layer formed on an outer
circumferential periphery of the reinforcing layer.

8. (Currently Amended) The flexible hose according to claim 7, wherein further
comprising a coupling assembly which includes: the [[an]] inner sleeve-like conduit coupling
comprises: including

an inside connecting portion adapted to be coupled to an associated inside
connecting portion[[],] :

a plurality of retainer segments extending in a radial direction thereof[[],] ; and

an inside hose fixing portion fixedly retained fixedly by a distal end of the inner hose[[;]] ; and

the [[an]] outer sleeve-like conduit coupling comprises: including

an outside connecting portion adapted to be coupled to an associated outside connecting portion[.,] ;

a retainer fixing portion fixedly retained retaining fixedly the retainer segments of the inner conduit coupling[[,]] ; and

an outside hose fixing portion fixedly retained fixedly by a distal end of the outer hose,

~~the outer conduit coupling having an inner diameter slightly larger than an outer diameter of the retainer segments of the inner conduit coupling;~~

wherein the retainer fixing portion and the retainer segments are configured so that pressing caulking an outer circumferential periphery of the retainer fixing portion after inserting the inner conduit coupling,~~which is fixedly retained with the distal end of the inner hose, into an interior of the outer conduit coupling, which is fixedly retained with the distal end of the outer hose,~~ allows the retainer segments to be fixedly retained with the retainer fixing portion.

9. (Canceled)

10. (New) The flexible hose according to claim 3, wherein the outer conduit coupling has an inner diameter slightly larger than an outer diameter of the retainer segments of the inner conduit coupling.

11. (New) The flexible hose according to claim 6, wherein the outer conduit coupling has an inner diameter slightly larger than an outer diameter of the retainer segments of the inner conduit coupling.

12. (New) The flexible hose according to claim 8, wherein the outer conduit coupling has an inner diameter slightly larger than an outer diameter of the retainer segments of the inner conduit coupling.